

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replacement paragraph for the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 11 and ending at page 7, line 20:

FIG. 3 is an enlarged sectional view of a valve assembly according to the present invention. The valve assembly 100 according to the present invention ~~has~~has a valve plate 110 having a suction hole (not shown) and a discharge hole 113, a keeper 140 secured to the valve plate 110 by a fastening bolt 170, a reed valve 120 secured between the valve plate 110 and the keeper 140, and a first and second stopper 130 and 135 for resisting against a deformation force of the reed valve 120.